

THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH.

Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER—DECEMBER.

That a spirit of inquiry may be aroused in the Church as to the needs of the heathen world, and that Christian women may recognize their responsibility thereto. Luke vi. 31.

For the grace of liberality. Malachi iii. 8; 2 Corinthians viii. 7.

For all converts under the care of the Woman's Missionary Society, that they may be trained for usefulness among their own people. Mark v. 19.

FRENCH WORK.

From Miss Matthieu.

MONTREAL EAST END MISSION SCHOOL,
1 Labelle Street.

My school has presented many features for encouragement this last month. Our attendance has been pretty regular. We have had an increase of thirteen pupils and thirty

registered, six from English parents, eleven from French Protestant parents, and thirteen from Roman Catholic parents, though two of them have left us owing to their church influence. Having visited this family they have told us they were obliged to send their children to the convent; however, they have not done so as yet. I trust that God will incline their hearts to send their children back to us for instruction. Dear ladies, we ask your earnest prayers for our success and prosperity in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

Report of Madame Morin,

BIBLE-READER, EAST END, MONTREAL.

The month of October has been rather encouraging. While visiting regularly the families attached to our French Church, I have also visited a number of Roman Catholic families, and among them are some who are quite liberal in their religious views. I have sold two New Testaments and distributed thirty tracts.

I have encountered some few discouragements; indeed, the door has been sometimes shut in my face, but I had the promise that the Lord was with me.

We have had our Friday prayer-meetings, but they are sometimes poorly attended. It is not, however, because the people are not invited. Some do not attend from real hindrances, others, may we say it, from indifference. Let us hope that the attendance will soon be better.

I have commenced giving singing lessons once a week in the school, and to-day I have begun to visit the sick in the general hospital. I will probably go for the future once a week. In consoling the sick in their sufferings, we can speak to them of the love of Jesus, and so contribute by this means to the advancement of the reign of Christ.

If I had some clothes and shoes I could aid some persons who are much in need of them. In every case I would use great caution in placing them. May the Lord help us in this difficult work.

JAPAN.

One of our missionaries, in a private letter, tells of her experiences in travelling to her station as follows :

"I never heard Christianity so much talked about as we did on this trip. I believe the Buddhists have done a good work for us in the lecture meetings they held last year through the Ken (province). They called people's attention to Christianity, and broke up the indifference that made the work so hard before. The mistress of the hotel at which we stopped for lunch, had been very attentive to us, and on leaving I gave her a Testament which I had with me. I saw her husband take it and begin to examine it, so while we were putting on our shoes I kept my ears turned in his direction. He soon discovered what it was and exclaimed, 'This is a Christian book,' and added in most emphatic tones to the guests who had come out to see us off, 'Christianity is a very good thing.' Our basha (stage) was not ready, so I moved over to where they were sitting and asked him if he understood Christianity. He said he did not know anything special about it until a few weeks ago. He had been to Yokohama on business. A friend whom he met there was studying Christianity and had told him a great deal about it. He was very glad, he said, to have a book about it. I told him the teachings of Christ were all written in the book, and that the marked places were the most important points and also easy to understand. The other men had got hold of the book by this time and at once began looking up the marked places. He told them that it was all in that book and people read it themselves, and then they went to church and heard it explained, and when they believed they changed inside and then they received baptism. He said he did not know much about it, but everything his friend told him was good. I did wish to be able to talk better, but anyway I left God's own word with them, and perhaps words of mine were not needed.

"Almost the first thing the minister said to me on arriving was that the work in the province is growing more hopeful.

He has been going around through the villages in the holidays, and had good audiences everywhere. At Y— a little blind girl is holding on to her Christianity. She received some teaching in a hospital in Tokyo. At another hotel the people who occupied the room adjoining discussed Christianity all the evening."

CHINA.

From Dr. Gifford.

SHANGHAI, *Aug. 25th, 1893.*

It would be impossible for us to submit to you a plan of work for the October meeting, as we can make no definite plans until we reach our field. The work in the interior is vastly different from work in the open ports. Of course for several months after our arrival it will be necessary to devote our time entirely to acquiring the Chen-tu dialect. My first medical work will probably be to open a dispensary for women and children, and thus prepare the way for an hospital. It will be necessary to arrange for the purchase of land on which to build a school and hospital.

I am so thankful you have consented to my taking with me the Chinese girl of whom I wrote. I shall try, with God's help, to train her and make her worthy of the support you have promised. One consecrated Chinese worker is able to do much more than a foreigner in reaching the people. It is her own wish to come to Chen-tu, and the American Board has no woman's medical work there.

I pray that not only the school and evangelistic work, but the medical work, may be laid on a firm foundation. I shall do all I can, and look to God for wisdom and guidance in all. An old missionary said to me to-day, "You medical women missionaries hold so much in your hands, you are able to open homes that it would take years to enter in any other way." I trust another medical worker may be raised up to join me as soon as the work is ready for her.

You say you wish the money was in hand to erect and furnish a building. I wish so, too, but these things will

come, I believe. I wish someone with money would feel it their duty to give \$5,000 or \$6,000 for building an hospital in Chen-tu. I wonder why some consecrated person does not feel the great need there is here, and do so.

You speak of the vastness of the work. Often when I think of it I am startled and feel so helpless. Just think, the death rate here is 1,000 per hour of those who have never heard of Jesus. Yesterday I was told of an island off the coast of China which has a population of 1,000,000 people. There is one large city, and seventy-five towns and villages, and not one resident missionary, native or foreign. Truly the field is white unto harvest. If the people at home would awake to the need and to their responsibility in the matter. God has given me some little work to do for Him here. For the last four weeks I have had for two hours a week a Bible lesson in English with a class of Japanese boys, and I have had a Sunday School class of Chinese.

From Miss Brackbill.

If we have a prosperous journey, we will probably arrive in Chen-tu about Christmas. It would be pleasant to have our first Christmas dinner in China with Canadians, and especially so, they being of our own party.

We have had invitations to visit at nearly every port on our way up, and have become so well acquainted with many missionaries that we should enjoy it very much, and, no doubt, would derive very much benefit by seeing the work in different places, were it not for the long journey ahead of us and our desire to reach our destination.

I think our stay in Shanghai has been an advantage, especially as we have to open the work. We have met about 300 missionaries from all parts of China and Korea, and a few from Japan and India. Among the number were many who are living a deep spiritual life, and are continually being guided in their ways by the Holy Spirit, and it cannot but be an advantage to mingle with such people.

Though we may board for a short time, it is necessary for us to take many articles of house furnishings from here, as

the expense of sending them 1,800 miles into the interior of a country where there are no railroads, and steamboats only about one-half the distance, is considerable. There is very little comparison between getting supplies to the interior of China and any part of Japan, or even the treaty ports of China. We have been obliged to purchase lamps, dishes (bed-room, dinner and tea sets), chairs, clocks, stoves, springs for bed, etc., as it is impossible to get the least foreign articles, even a pair of shoe strings, up there. We have also been purchasing supplies both for the journey up and something to last for a time after arrival. Sugar, soap, flour, butter, spices, canned fruits (as the bottles are needed for after use), canned meats (for the journey), vinegar, salt, pepper, mustard, etc., etc., all have to be purchased in Shanghai. After sending an order from Chen-tu it would be nearly six months before this order could be filled out and supplies received.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

From a Private Letter from Miss Spence,

NURSE AT PORT SIMPSON HOSPITAL.

My life here is a very active one. We rise usually about half-past five, and a busy day is often followed by a busy night. Our hospital is much the same as others, only on a smaller scale. We frequently have surgical operations, involving a good deal of responsibility; maternity cases and their little offspring to be cared for, and the dying to be attended day and night until the weary life is ended. We have whites, Indians and Japanese, all requiring and expecting the same attention and treatment as they would receive in a fully equipped hospital. I cannot tell you how much I thank God for the health and strength He has given me; notwithstanding, there are times when I wonder if I shall ever feel rested again. I like the work very much. Although there are a few things to make it disagreeable there is an abundance to be thankful for. I will be glad when I can have an assistant. I have been trying to teach some of the Indian girls the art of nursing and caring for the sick, but I found none whom I could trust without a supervisor.

Suggested Programme for January Meeting.

- I. Doxology and The Lord's Prayer.
 - II. Hymn—"Lord, I believe a rest remains," No. 517, Methodist Hymn-book.
 - III. Responsive Reading—Romans xii.
 - IV. Business.
 - V. The President will read the subject of prayer for the month: The baptism of the Holy Spirit, that all may be led to renewed consecration to the work to which they may be called during the year. All converts under the care of our society, that they may be strengthened by the power of God and remain steadfast in the faith. Phil. i. 3-6, to be followed by singing hymn, "My All is on the Altar," page 714, Songs and Solos, Sankey.
 - VI. Devotional Exercise. (a) For the Baptism of the Holy Spirit—prayer. (b) Renewed consecration—testimony. (c) That the converts may hold fast their profession of faith—prayer.
 - VII. Reading—"Died as a Christian, burned as a Hindu." (i)
 - VIII. Roll call—Each member giving a missionary item. (2)
 - IX. Hymn—"Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go," No. 419, Methodist Hymn-book.
 - X. Benediction.
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1. To be had at Room 20. Price 1 cent.
2. The Secretary will please supply each member with an item before the day appointed for the meeting. Items to be selected from "Open Doors." Price 15 cents.

REVIEWS OF USEFUL LEAFLETS.

Died as a Christian, Burned as a Hindu, by Mrs. Ada Lee, is a short touching story of a young Bengali girl who, when only a child, was married to an old man. In a few short months she was taken ill with that dreadful disease consumption, and but for the earnest efforts of the "Zenana worker" would have died in heathen darkness. But through this instrumentality God wonderfully saved her and she died most triumphantly. A most earnest appeal is made in this little leaflet for both workers and funds for Bengal, and surely no true Christian can read the story of "Sharott" without having the desire kindled in his or her heart to contribute something to this good work. Price 1 cent.

The Deacon's Week—How the church members of Sugar Hollow spent the "week of prayer" is told in a bright and spirited style. By the request of their pastor the week was observed as a week of practice instead of prayer. At its close Deacon Emmons was chosen to relate his experience before the members of the little church. The deacon had had a hard week, as had many others. It began a memorable year for Sugar Hollow. Another year they will again keep a week of "practice" by common consent. This will be a very helpful and suggestive story to everyone who will read it. Price 3 cents.

Home Readings.

"An Essential Element in Mission Work." *Gospel in All Lands*, January, 1893, page 1.

Report of the Supply Committee.

Miss Clarke, of Chillihack, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a barrel from Rock Chapel Auxiliary, filled with articles of best quality. She says, "everything will be of greatest use to us." The dolls from Huntsville Mission Band were gladly received in view of the coming Christmas entertainment. A quilt from Bermuda was received at the same time and duly acknowledged.

Notice to Auxiliaries.

The Board of Managers has authorized the Literature Committee to issue a missionary calendar, which will be ready by the time this Letter reaches the Auxiliaries. The title page is very prettily arranged, and the contents will be found both interesting and profitable. The Board has set the price at 15 cents a copy, \$1 80 a dozen. Orders and remittances to be sent to Miss Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

The Board of Managers has arranged for an amalgamation of *Our Quarterly* and *Palm Branches*, a Mission Band quarterly hitherto published by the N. B. and P. E. I. Branches. The new publication is adopted as the official organ of our Mission Band Department, and will be issued monthly, for 10 cents a year, beginning with January, 1894, and will be known as *Palm Branches*. Subscriptions are to be sent, by direction of the Board, to Miss Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

The W. M. S. books may be ordered from Room 20, instead of the Book Room as formerly. Price \$1.25 a set, or separately as follows, postage paid: Treasurer's book, 60 cents; recording secretary's book, 60 cents; corresponding secretary's book, 30 cents.

Back numbers of *Our Quarterly* at 50 cents a hundred may be ordered from Room 20. These will be found very useful in creating a missionary interest among Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues.

When ordering Monthly Letters, it is necessary to give the name of the Corresponding Secretary to whom they were sent last year, as well as the Corresponding Secretary for the present year.

Orders for the Monthly Letter for January should be sent before the 15th of December. If not, they will be too late for that month. It is very desirable that this rule be always followed when ordering the Monthly Letter.

Will friends who order literature from Room 20, kindly remember *not* to send three cent stamps, if larger or smaller denominations can be obtained. Remit by money order or bills when possible.

Subscriptions for the following missionary periodicals will be received and forwarded by Miss Ogden: *Missionary Review of The World*, per year, \$1 50; *Gospel In All Lands*, per year, 80 cents; *African News*, per year, 75 cents; *Message and Deaconess World*, per year, 50 cents; *Heuthen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50 cents.

Free Leaflets.

Constitution for Auxiliary and Mission Band.

Duties of Auxiliary Officers.

Origin and Work of W. M. S., Methodist Church, Canada.

Ten Reasons Why I Should Belong to a W. M. S.

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Orders for free leaflets should be accompanied by two cents for postage

Pasteboard Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents each.

Folding Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents a dozen.

Mission Band Life Membership Certificates, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents each, or 6 for 12 cents.

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For the above, Address

MISS ANNIE L. OGDEN,

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